

FLD 302

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CONFIDENTIAL
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR. 27 July 1948

SUBJECT Military Information: Chinese Communist
Draft System, Kuantung Peninsula

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. The Chinese Communists in Dairen use a draft system known as the 1-3-5-7 system in order to obtain recruits for their armies. This system works on the theory that all males between the ages of 16 and 45 are obligated to serve in the army. If there is only one eligible male in a family, he must join the army or turn over 300 catties of wheat to his district (? draft) office. If two men in a family are eligible for army service they may be exempted by turning in 500 catties of wheat apiece to the district office. If three men in a family are eligible for conscription, they must turn over 700 catties of wheat apiece or join the army.

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Comment. No mention is made of cases where there are more than three men in a family eligible for the draft.)

2. The district office distributes 2/3 of the wheat collected in this manner to a public food stock. The remaining 1/3 is distributed to those families who have members in the army.

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3. Orders for drafting men in Dairen are issued by the Bureau of Civil Affairs (民政局) which assigns quotas to the districts. The district chiefs assign quotas to the fang (坊) in their districts. The district leaders always draft more men than required in order to make a good showing for their districts and to provide for the contingency that many of those drafted will desert. There are many cases of corruption in carrying out the draft and it is often possible to purchase a release by paying money to fang or district officials.

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